

# GOING UP IN THE WORLD



## A history of Simon Engineering, the development of the powered access industry and a lifetime as an engineer, by Denis Ashworth

Ashworth was a keen engineer and from an early age found himself in at the very start of the modern powered access industry.

His book is an unusual combination of autobiography and history of Simon Engineering Dudley, a pioneer of the powered access industry and at one time, the world's largest manufacturer of aerial lifts.

The coffee table sized book, is highly readable and includes around 150 photographs and drawings from the very beginning of the industry. It is a 'must read' for anyone who is interested in powered access, the hydraulic equipment industry or in comparing modern day engineering challenges with those of an entirely different era.

The book is available direct from the publishers at £19.50, plus £4.50 postage and packing.

- Continental Europe €23 plus €6.50 postage & packing
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# XCMG XGC220T

The XCMG XGC220T is a telescopic crawler crane with a capacity of 220 tonnes. This model by Yagao comes in an XCMG branded box and includes an instruction sheet printed in Chinese and English.

The metal tracks are a good representation of the real machine, but the track frames are less accurately modelled, and this is mainly a result of the extension mechanism chosen. The width is not reduced when the tracks are retracted as the support beams remain extended. Lightweight ballast blocks are mounted between the track frames, and there are self-assembly outriggers.

The crane cab has a plastic protection grille and a decent interior. It can be tilted to a very good angle. It is also mounted on a swinging arm presumably to be able to move it to the back and reduce width in transport mode.

The crane superstructure has detailed graphics, while panel door handles are highlighted. The counterweight blocks and tray have useable lifting lugs and the weight of each is marked with graphics. The self-assembly lift cylinders and chains are modelled but they have not been provided with enough downward movement to allow the tray to be fully lowered to the ground like the real crane.

The boom is detailed with spooling drums and sharp graphics. The telescopic sections pull out and three locking positions are provided at 50, 90 and 100 percent extension. The hydraulic luffing lattice bi-fold swingaway extension is provided as two sections and joined by tiny brass nuts and bolts, but surprisingly its cannot be attached to the side of the boom when not in use.

The winch drums are detailed, but they are operated by laborious finger work rather than with a key. Two metal hook blocks are supplied. One is a single line 'headache ball' while the other has three sheaves and they are both very good quality. A shiny metal XCMG load block is also included.

This is an interesting crane, and the model looks very good when fully assembled. However, the modelling of some of the functionality is odd and deviates from the real machine. It sells for \$235 on the Yagao AliExpress store.

To read the full review of this model visit [www.cranesetc.co.uk](http://www.cranesetc.co.uk)

### Cranes Etc Model Rating

Packaging (max 10)	7
Detail (max 30)	22
Features (max 20)	12
Quality (max 25)	21
Price (max 15)	11
Overall (max 100)	73%



Metal tracks



XCMG load block included

Bi-fold extension luffs



Tracks retracted

Tilting cab



# IPAF 2020 Rental Market Reports



IPAF has published its annual rental market reports covering the main global powered access markets through the end of 2019 - The Global Powered Access Rental Market Report 2020. The reports follow and improve on the well developed format that has been refined over the past 10 years or so by the International Powered Access Federation and its partner DuckerFrontier.

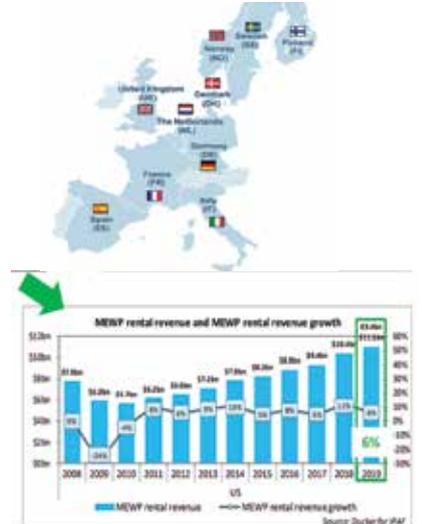
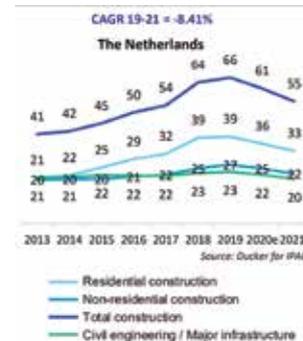
The reports cover the period before this year's pandemic took root, and as such is a clean view of how it was going, and depending on how each country has dealt with the Covid-19 pandemic how it might return to in 2021?

The European guide includes individual country reports for Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the UK which together represent around 85 percent of the total European market. It can be ordered by country or as a single All European report.

Other reports include one for North America – the USA and Canada, and a third special report covering the emerging Chinese market.

The reports include a great deal of specific detail, including estimates of total market size in terms of value and number of units in national fleets, along with a host of other information, including time and physical utilisation, rental rate growth or declines and how these compare with construction market output, plus market penetration, application splits, power source mix by machine type, along with investment levels and average age of the fleet, to mention just a few. All of these factors are charted over the past 10 years or so to show longer term trends in each market.

The market estimates put the worth of the European market at almost €3 billion, following five years of steady growth, while the fleet now totals around 308,000 units. The



North American machine population is thought to be closer to 660,000 units, with a value more than three times that of Europe. China is interesting in that rental is a relatively new concept, but one that is growing rapidly. The report's authors estimate that its is now worth around €800 million and already has a national fleet of more than 155,000 units.

In addition to masses of well presented data and trend charts, there are several summaries and comparisons such as between the European and North American markets. And if numbers are not your thing some excellent executive summaries. If you are looking at the powered access in one of the

markets covered, you will not do better than to buy this report.

The reports are available to order online at: <https://www.ipaf.org/en-gb/resource-library/ipaf-rental-market-reports> in a range of different packages with the two extremes are as follows.

The full Global report (all countries):  
 IPAF Members: €798, £665, \$832  
 Non-Members: €2,082, £1,735, \$2,169  
 Individual country report:  
 IPAF Members: €174, £145, \$182  
 Non-Members: €456, £380, \$475

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